



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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Nursing Director Receives Excellence in Leadership Award

Falls Church— Richard E. Kellogg, Commissioner, announced today that Lynn C. DeLacy, Director of Nursing at the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute in Falls Church, is the winner of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association Award for Excellence in Leadership. The Association recognized Mrs. DeLacy's "significant contribution to psychiatric-mental health nursing through her leadership as Chair of the APNA Seclusion and Restraint Task Force. For the past two years she has led the work of a task force to develop two key documents for national dissemination, a *Position Statement on the Use of Seclusion and Restraint*, and the *Seclusion and Restraint Standards of Practice*.

"Not only has Lynn DeLacy been a proven leader at the facility and throughout Virginia, she has provided guidance for psychiatric staff and facility care across the country. These guidelines will help to assure that consumers are protected and that high quality care is the national standard " said Commissioner Kellogg.

With Lynn DeLacy as chair of the national task force, the American Psychiatric Nurses Association had taken the lead in the country on psychiatric mental health nurses' position on seclusion and restraint. In addition, during her tenure the task force conducted a field review of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations' (JCAHO) draft standards for seclusion and restraint, reviewed OSHA guidelines on workplace violence , and responded to HCFA's proposed interim final regulations on seclusion and restraint.

In addition to her position as Director of Nursing at NVMHI, Mrs. DeLacy served as Acting Facility Director from November, 1997, until April 1998. She is a doctoral candidate at George Mason University, College of Nursing and Health Science. Mrs. DeLacy is Board Certified in Nursing Administration, Advanced, through the American Nurses Credentialing Center. She is a member of several professional societies.

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